

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 796

By Turner M

A RESOLUTION to recognize Margie K. Covington on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years in education; and

WHEREAS, Margie K. Covington is one such estimable person who served with distinction for over thirty-nine years as a teacher with Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Covington took a much deserved retirement in December of 2007; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Goodlettsville High School, Margie Covington received a Bachelor of Science degree from Belmont College, a Master of Aerospace degree from Middle Tennessee State University, and a Master of Education degree from Vanderbilt University's Peabody College; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Covington maintained certifications in biology, aeronautics, and history during her long and admirable career as a math, science, and history teacher at many of Nashville's schools, including Hawkins Junior High School, Cumberland Junior High School, Two Rivers Junior High School, Stratford High School, Littleton Middle School, and McGavock Comprehensive High School; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated public servant committed to the welfare of her community, Margie Covington spent the majority of her thirty-nine years teaching at-risk students, her expertise in which is acknowledged by the publication of her article "Teaching Science in the Inner City" in the *Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science*; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Covington's unflagging commitment to excellence earned her the accolades of Distinguished Teacher of the Year from the State of Tennessee in 1975 and Outstanding Educator of McGavock High School from the Donelson-Hermitage Chamber of Commerce in 1999; and

WHEREAS, the considerable acumen and alacrity with which she served garnered her further recognition from the National Science Foundation, the Betty Phillips Foundation for Child Birth Defects, the NASA Teacher in Space Program, and *Who's Who Among Outstanding Teachers*; and

WHEREAS, her assiduous efforts to improve her schools were evinced by her participation in the Equity 2000 Program, which increased attendance by twenty percent in 2000 and 2001 and also increased the number of honor roll students, and her implementation of the first hall pass system at McGavock High School in order to decrease the number of unauthorized students and activities in the hallways during class time; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Covington also worked for the betterment of the city's schools through her four years of service on the Curriculum Advisory Committee and her time on the Textbook Committee for Textbook Adoption; and

WHEREAS, an active and important part of her community and her profession, Margie Covington has participated in numerous worthy organizations, including the Metropolitan Nashville Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association, the National Education Association, the Tennessee Academy of Science, the Science Association of Tennessee, and the Vanderbilt Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Covington is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who worked sedulously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Margie Covington truly epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest values of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Ms. Covington demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and students alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we thank Margie K. Covington for her many years of service to the

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.